

THE BOWTIE BULLETIN - NOVEMBER 2014

The Official Newsletter Of The **PIEDMONT CLASSIC CHEVY CLUB**

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Message from Our PCCC President—David Smith

Happy Halloween to everyone, I hope all are doing well and enjoying the cool weather. The holidays will soon be upon us and the time spent out with our "toys" will be less and less. On the other hand November seems to be the busiest time of the year for shows and cruises.

Every weekend from now until Thanksgiving has at least one show or Parade going on. I for one really look forward every year to the Veterans Day and Christmas Parade. That along with the Reunion cruise, Toys for Tots, Carolina Collector Auto fest and of course Thanksgiving should keep us all busy for the entire month and beyond.

All this and we can't forget that the November Meeting is "Election Night" for Piedmont Classic Chevy Club. I hope you all can make it to the next 2 meetings as it is important to be informed. Anyone wishing to throw their hat in the ring for any office (President, Vice President Treasurer and Secretary) Please contact any of the nominating committee members, Ray Bader, Don Cooper, David Peedin or Max Cooper. See you all at the next meeting.

Next PCCC Business Meeting—November 24, 2014

PCCC Apparel

Royal Blue Polyester Golf Shirts

(including standard embroidery) [\$25]

Royal Blue Cotton Golf Shirts

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Add [\$2] for 2XL and [\$3] for 3XL

Club Jacket Black or Royal Blue/Navy

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\$5 extra for embroidered name on shirt or jacket
\$10 for embroidered club logo on back

Magnetic Engraved Name Badges [\$10.70]

Contact Barry Kitchener @ 919.833.0882
or barrykit2000@yahoo.com
for complete ordering details

2014 Club Officers

President - David Smith

dmsmith@nc.rr.com

Vice President - Barry Kitchener

barrykit2000@yahoo.com

Secretaries - Jim Toups & Carol Keith

jtoups@nc.rr.com

tedkeith@bellsouth.net

Treasurer - Tom Doherty

tdoherty@mpclp.com

Send your club dues payment to:

Tom Doherty

4008 Ridgebrook Bluffs

Raleigh, NC 27603

I want to thank everyone who participated for their help in making the Chili Cook-off another successful PCCC Social event. A special thanks to those who chose to participate in the Chili Cook-off—they were all good! Congratulations to Jim Toups as the Winner of the Cook off (won by 1 vote by the way). A special thanks also to those that provided the makings for Tacos and Burritos. There was lots of really good food and I believe everyone enjoyed themselves.

I really appreciate those that stepped up for the cleanup/setup detail. Always necessary and always completed efficiently. I am sorry that I rarely, if ever, mention them by name; but I rarely know who they are, because I am busy trying to get “stuff” boxed and loaded to leave. By the time I look up, the cleanup is done and about everyone is gone. Like many successful endeavors, these are the “behind the scenes” people that contribute heavily to its success.

I regret that some had conflicting obligations and could not make the event; but you can only be in one place at a time and conflicts happen.

Our next event is our Christmas Banquet on December 6th. Mark your calendars for the closing event of the year. We will discuss some ideas at the next Business Meeting.

Thanks, David Ward Jones

Remaining 2014 PCCC Social Event

CHRISTMAS BANQUET

Saturday December 6 (TIME TBD)

Fairview Community Center

Any Questions or Suggestions?

Contact David Ward Jones at 919.971.4615

or daviddwjarchitect@nc.rr.com

LOCAL CLASSIC CAR CRUISE-INS

1st Sat - *Zaxby's Cruise In* - US 70 E, Clayton - 3PM
1st Sat - *Hot Nights - Hot Cars Cruise-In* - Pilot Mountain - 3PM
1st Sun - *Back In The Day Café* - Cary - 11AM
2nd Sat - *Lone Star Restaurant Cruise-In* - Knightdale - 11AM
2nd Sat - *Char-Grill* - Atlantic Ave, Raleigh - 2PM
3rd Sat— *Cars & Coffee At The Raleigh Grande*—Raleigh—8AM-11AM
3rd Sat - *Grill 57* - US 401 S, Raleigh - 2PM
3rd Sat - *Goldston Cruise In* - Goldston - 10AM—2PM
4th Sat - *Cooley's Restaurant* - Fuquay-Varina - 4PM-8PM
3rd Fri - *Andy's Creedmoor/Butner Cruise In* - NC 56 W (at Food Lion Parking Lot) Creedmoor - 4PM
3rd Fri - *Ledo's Pizza Cruise-In* - Southern Pines - 5PM
4th Fri - *Chick-Fil-A / Goodberry's Cruise In* - Roxboro Rd, Durham - 4PM

FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF UPCOMING EVENTS IN NORTH CAROLINA VISIT OUR PCCC FACEBOOK FAN PAGE AND OUR NEW PCCC WEBSITE

www.facebook.com/piedmontccc/events

<http://piedmontccc.org/>

<http://www.carshowfinder.org>

Or contact David Matthews at matthewsdavid1955@gmail.com



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FEATURE ARTICLE

The Travels of Lee Caplan

My grandfather and father worked together in a business which required they make deliveries to customers weekly. As a toddler and preschooler I frequently rode along.

Because the business put a lot of miles on these vehicles of the fifties and because the driving environment in Baltimore was not always conducive to maintaining the cosmetic beauty of automobiles my family shopped every year for new vehicles. I was treated to visits at many of the city's new car showrooms with regularity.



Baltimore's Anderson Chevrolet in the 1950's



My Mom and Dad pictured here with me at the Jersey Shore in 1957.

I must have learned a lot from those drives and dealer showrooms because my parents still recall how I could and did accurately identify many of the vehicles in traffic. My love of automobiles has not diminished since then. In part I bought, restored and maintain my 1955 Chevrolet 210 Sport Coupe to keep close to the wonderful auto related feelings I had as a child but I also like owning the old car because it serves as my ticket to car shows and cruise-ins allowing me to see and experience the fantastic cars of others.

A process lead me to buy a pick-up and trailer to increase the range of my car show travels. To accommodate a chronic lifelong short attention trait I try not to repeat the same experiences too often in too short a time. In the old car hobby this translates to my not going to the same shows year after year. For the first few years that was not difficult as I enjoyed driving the car in Chapel Hill, Durham and Raleigh where there were and still are a great variety of classic car venues in which to see and be seen. Eventually with only one car I sensed I was boring the hobby by repeatedly taking the same car to the same shows.

My daughter rode in the car with me as we drove to the Clayton Harvest Festival on September 16, 2006.



No matter the vehicle I love to drive and go places.

Instead of showing the old car in just in the Triangle I branched out driving the car to Alamance, Rockingham and Guilford Counties. Eventually I started repeating shows in these areas too.

The first out of town car event I attended was at the car corral at the Hornet's Nest AACA show at Lowe's Motor Speedway probably in 2007. I drove the old car there and back.



The AACA Alamance Region Car Show, May 19, 2007.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Travels of Lee Caplan (continued)

I went to a Classic Chevy International Show in Hagerstown, Maryland in July 2007 but decided it was too far away to drive the old car. I enjoyed the show but was disappointed to be one of those car show participants who could only talk about his old car.



1955 Chevrolet 210 Hardtop owned by Charlie Potts of Reading, Pennsylvania on display at Classic Chevy International Annual Show in Hagerstown, Maryland on July 6, 2007. I kept thinking my car should be on display right next to Charlie's.

Vowing never to miss an opportunity to show my own car at any event I attended, in 2008 I rented a pick-up truck and a trailer as a test to take my car back to Charlotte for the AACA Southeastern Spring Regional where the car earned its AACA First Junior.

That trip went well enough that I bought a pick-up truck and rented an open trailer again for a drive to Cumberland, Maryland for the AACA Eastern Fall Regional where my car earned its First Senior making it eligible for AACA Grand National competition. Unfortunately the car got soaked and extremely dirty on the ride back from Maryland. That experience convinced me the ultimate solution was to buy a simple closed trailer to pull with my pick-up.



The 2009 Pace trailer hauled by my former pick-up, a 2008 Toyota Tundra SR5, photographed at an I-95 rest Stop in Virginia. Trust me the Chevy's in there.

The first place I took the car, trailer and pickup combination was to Rims on the River in Wilmington. It was also a kind of test run to start to learn how to hookup, load, park and unload the trailer. I'm very competent maneuvering the combination now but my trailer still carries permanent cosmetic scars from scraping street signs and branches while I was teaching myself how to operate with a 28' trailer in Wilmington on that maiden voyage.

This combination has allowed me to branch out further to more diverse and larger car shows in different parts of the country. The first big competitive show I took the car to was the 2010 AACA Grand National at New Bern, North Carolina. The car earned a Third Place there. I clearly had lots of work to do to move up the quality ladder.

AACA Grand National, New Bern, North Carolina – May 15, 2010.



FEATURE ARTICLE

The Travels of Lee Caplan (continued)

Since then I've been able to visit car shows and cruise-ins in locations from Florida to Vermont, Minnesota to Missouri and Iowa to New York. My travels are primarily to Classic Chevy, AACA and VCCA "national" shows where I've successfully competed and made many. These events give my car wide exposure to others who enjoy stock original vehicles but more importantly expose me to hundreds of collectors with my same interests and tastes that I would never meet locally.

2011 was prolific year for travel with the old car.



Eckler's Classic Chevy Winter Show, February 12, 2011 in Orlando, Florida



'Run to the Sun', Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 9, 2011



Minnesota Street Rod Association - "Back to the Fifties" - St. Paul, Minnesota June 19, 2011

While I'm on these excursions I try to stop at other local events to see and be seen. Once I visited the man who sold me the car. He's from South Sioux City, Nebraska. He took me around to his local car club members and feted me with meals and club gear. On my way out of town he followed me about 50 miles to a local cruise-in at LeMars, Iowa, the town in which more ice cream is produced by a single company by (Blue Bunny) each day than anywhere else in the United States. Oh and it was during the Ice Cream Days Festival. I didn't plan this. I fell into that opportunity but I wouldn't have had that experience unless I was willing to pack up and wander the countryside in the first place.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Travels of Lee Caplan (continued)

I bought the car from Daryl Saltzgeber of South Sioux City, Nebraska. Here he is with the car again at a cruise in at Le Mars, Iowa on June 15, 2011.



Similar experiences occur on almost every trip. A few years ago I attended the Vermont Auto Enthusiasts Car Show in Stowe. I learned about it through my Hemmings Motor News subscription. On my way to Stowe I stopped in Bennington at the Hemmings headquarters. I toured the museum while staying the night in this quaint New England town. On my arrival in Stowe I went to register and set up for the show. A local newspaper photographer took my picture as I changed my headlights and that picture was published as part of feature highlighting the draw the show was having in its 37th consecutive year. In New England those North Carolina year of manufacture license plates can get you noticed. People were so friendly there that I'd recommend going even if you leave your old car home.

Cruise in on the streets of Stowe, Vermont August 14, 2010 following the Vermont Auto Enthusiast's show earlier that day.



One other trip I recall fondly was in taking my car back to the assembly plant at which it was built in September 1955. There is a General Motors plant at Janesville, Wisconsin. One town south of Janesville is Beloit. They have Autorama there every year toward the end of September. It's a show put on by a variety of local clubs including the local Classic Chevy club. They fill a city park waterfront park with 1,200 or so cars every year.



In the year I went, the day before the show I drove my car onto the grounds of the Janesville, Wisconsin General Motors Assembly plant and photographed my car in front of the building in which workers assembled my car in September 1955. On the day of the show I met people who knew of my car because it had resided in that area from 1955-2003. A former owner had me park next to him so he could experience the car once more for that day. You just can't beat experiences like that.

Traveling with the old car in a trailer is not always easy. I attended the VCCA Northeast Region Annual meet in Lawrence, New York a few years ago. I dovetailed that trip with a visit to my brother in rural northern New Jersey. The trip from his house to the show took me and my trailer over 50 miles through Metropolitan New York including across Staten Island on the I-278 and across the Verrazano Narrows on the Belt Parkway into and through Brooklyn on my way to Nassau County.

What I didn't realize is that the Belt is height limited with trucks excluded. Even though I was sure the interior height of my trailer was six feet I wasn't really sure how tall my trailer was from the road surface. There were multiple clearances listed for bridges crossing the Belt Parkway at under 10 feet. I maneuvered the trailer into the middle lane under the arched bridges to get gain maximum clearance. I held my breath under every bridge and somehow did not end up as a casualty on the every ten minute New York traffic reports. I remember the drive to and from that show more than I remember the show itself. Also bridge and highway tolls for that out and back New York City trip approached \$100.00 with my truck and two axle trailer.

FEATURE ARTICLE

The Travels of Lee Caplan (continued)



I had some anxious trailer clearance moments here. The trailer straddled the center line all the way making some New York drivers pretty angry. The only thing that would have made them angrier: Striking the bridge and closing the road.

Sometimes I go out of my way to get the car invited to special displays. To commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Chevrolet Hemmings Motor News established a category for the marque in its 2011 New England Concours D'Elegance. I submitted an application and received an invitation. In addition to participating in a 60 mile cruise through the Vermont countryside I was offered an opportunity to display the car on the grounds of the Stratton Mountain Resort with many other remarkable Chevrolet's from all eras.



Another example involved hauling and touring. I pulled the car to Charlotte for the Hornet's Nest show there this past spring. The day after that show ended the Vintage Chevrolet Club of America sponsored a 6 day 400 mile cruise through the Appalachians of North Carolina and Tennessee. I drove the 400 miles out and back for a total of 800 miles but I didn't have to drive the 300 miles out and back to Charlotte thereby keeping my annual usage at around 1000 miles which I'm trying to maintain.

*In front of the Biltmore Estate
Asheville, North Carolina
April 9, 2014.*



I don't own pets but it seems to me people make a lot friends just walking their dogs. I feel the same way about my old car. Whenever I have it out, people, who otherwise would never give me the time of day, feel free to walk right up to me and start talking about their revered memories of cars gone by. My ability and willingness to travel with my old car exposes me to hundreds more opportunities to meet and speak with new people all around the United States. Besides the wanderlust those meetings, better than anything else, explain my motivation to hit the open road to show and drive my car.

Story and photo images by Lee Caplan

David Smith's Tidbits

You've checked the title, the car's history, how much of it is original versus restored and NADA and Kelley Blue book as well as Hemming's and any other pricing and information guide.

You've read all the books, taken a test drive and had an engine, trans rear and shock check; you've even gone over the car with a magnet to check for Bondo repairs.

I use a check list that I keep locked in my head, but in my decades of experience of being a car nut there are 7 important aspects of owning a classic car that you must consider before the purchase.

They are as follows:

Neighbors

You will get to know all your neighbors. You could be living next to the same person for 20 years and never see them until you bring out your classic for a good detailing.

Be prepared for some unsolicited advice on care and engine enhancements as well. And in some cases many, many stories the variety of "You know I had one exactly like this only it was blue and had a 6 cylinder and a 4 door" LOL just kidding.

Crowd Appeal

Running errands take twice as long. Plan on an extra 10 minutes to get into the store as again like your neighbors you are asked a series of questions from fellow shoppers who saw you pull in.

But leaving the parking lot will also take an extra 30 minutes because of the crowd of people standing around your pride and joy.

Inquisitive Drivers

You'll see cars in your rear view mirror being driven at top speed only to come up beside you and linger for a good look while holding up traffic. Keep an eye out for their window to come down so they can yell out that all important question; "what year is that?", or when I'm driving our 1954 Chevy Truck "what Color is that?". This past year it's been great fun to count how many arms will come out of the window with a camera phone to take a snap shot. Be very careful with these admirers, because they are not watching the road.

New Friends

You'll find that you'll meet at least ten new friends on any given outing. It never fails to amaze me how many people there are who wouldn't normally give you a second thought until they see you in your classic. Then it's an hour of them opening their hearts and reminiscing about times in their lives when they drove a car like that. Ninety percent of the time it's the spouse who made them sell it, and looking back it was not always the wife who was forcing the sale.

Family Issues

The family makes you buy another television so they can watch Dancing with the stars and CSI while you watch Speed Channel, Discovery, Motor Sports and Car Crazy. But it's not just your television entertainment that will change. Hemming's Motor News will now be your new Playboy/Playgirl, Cosmo, etc., and Classic Car sales magazines will replace the Time magazine subscription. EBay becomes part of your daily "computer time" and you have a new library of car parts catalogues that rivals the Lincoln Library in its size.

Vacations

Vacations will either be in Arizona in January, Florida in late March or California in August to coincide with the Barrett-Jackson Classic Car Auctions and Pomona Swap and Carlisle PA Swap. The family can choose between the Grand Canyon, Whale Watching or Disney's Epcot Center while you are bathing in chrome and exhaust fumes from the past at the auctions and swap meets.

Stock Shifts

Home Depot's stock will plummet because you are now spending 50% of your weekly income on eBay, as well as Auto Zone, Advance and Napa Auto parts.

I would definitely check your portfolio and adjust accordingly.

So if you can handle these 7 life changing aspects of owning a classic or collector car, write the check and go for the ride of your life.

As always, Keep the shiny side up and the greasy side down.

PCCC PARTS & SWAP

Contact club member for more details

Long Style Cast Iron Water Pump (for small block) [\$25]; Carter Fuel Pump [\$15]; Cast Water Neck [\$15]; Chrome Water Neck [\$10]; 1970-72 Chevelle Original Dash Pad [\$75]; 1970 Chevelle tail light lenses [\$40 for both]; "350" emblems (R&L) for 70 Chevelle [\$40]; Trunk Emblem for 70 Chevelle [\$30]; Grill Emblem for 70 Chevelle [\$15]; Rocker Panel Trim for 1970-72 Chevelle [\$100 for pair]; Craftsman Compressor (needs some maint) [\$20]; 5 Gal Shop Vac [\$15]; K&N 13x2 Washable Air Filter [\$10]; 14x3 Air Filter [\$5]; 68-72 Chevelle Fuel Tank Door/License Plate Mount [\$10]; Set of Chrome Lug Nuts/Washers for Cragar (7/16x20) [\$20]; Set of [4] Lug Nut Locks with key [\$10]; Original 1970 Chevelle Grill and Stainless Trim [\$75] **Jeff Hopp** @ 919-467-9594

Small Block Quadrajet manifold [\$40]; Kenwood AM/FM Cass & CD Controller [\$100]; Kenwood 6 CD Changer [\$50]; 1970-1972 12 Bolt Posi Carrier [\$125]; Edelbrock 750 Performer Carb - may need rebuild [\$85] BBC open chamber cylinder heads. New valve job. [\$350] **Ray Bader** @ 919-387-0479

Fully restored "Henderson" city tag dated 1966 [\$60] **Ted Korab** @ 919-362-1832

4 Cragar S/S 15" X 8" multi-fit wheels with lug nuts [\$400] **Keith Archambault** @ 919-217-9882

The XP-755 Concept car, also known as the Mako Shark, was designed by Larry Shinoda under the direction of General Motors Styling and Design head Bill Mitchell in 1961, as a concept for future Chevrolet Corvette production cars. In keeping with the name, the streamlining, pointed snout, and other detailing was partly inspired by the sleek, fast-moving short-fin Mako Shark. The '61 Corvette tail was given two additional tail lights (six total) for the concept car. The concept was inspired by Bill Mitchell's 1959 Stingray racer XP87 which also inspired the 1963 Corvette Sting Ray.



CHEVROLET TRIVIA

What was the "Speedminder?"

Answer from the October 2014 Edition

Answer will appear in the December 2014 Edition

October 2014 Edition Trivia and Photo Winners
Tom Doherty, Barry Kitchener, Jim Beedenbender

FROM OCT 2014



Send your answers to
Jeff Hopp at
jhopp55@att.net



Kate Doherty's 1973 Corvette



OUT & ABOUT WITH PCCC




Photos by
Todd Crook
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Todd & Tena
Crook
**BEST TRUCK AT
HENDERSON**